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Two Upcoming Artist Talks at Winthrop University Galleries Address Race and Gender

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Two Upcoming Artist Talks at Winthrop University Galleries Address Race and Gender

Quick Facts

- Sonya Clark will speak at 8 p.m. Feb. 21 in 119 Rutledge Building.
- Christine Kirouac will speak at 8 p.m. Feb. 28 in 119 Rutledge Building.
- Both are free cultural events.



Flat Twist on a Remnant of Idyllic Days

ROCK HILL, S.C. - [Winthrop University Galleries](#) welcomes artist **Sonya Clark** to present an in-depth talk on Thursday, Feb. 21 at 8 p.m. in [119 Rutledge Building](#) about her thought-provoking work and current exhibition "**Material Reflex.**"

Drawing from her African-American, Scottish and Caribbean roots, Clark takes seemingly common objects such as a piece of cloth or a strand of human hair and transforms them into visual commentary, challenging the viewer to embrace the subliminal context of race, class and gender. Historical subjects such as the African Diaspora, Colonialism and the Three-Fifths Compromise as well as historical figures such as Madame CJ Walker are critiqued through Clark's interpretations of materials and weaving processes.

Clark was born in Washington, D.C., and has an M.F.A from the Cranbrook Academy of Art. She is currently a professor at the Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Va., and chair of the Department of Craft/Material Studies. She serves on the Board of the American Craft Council and the Advisory Board of the Textile Museum in Washington, D.C. Her most recent award from the United States Artists Fellows program accompanies previous honors from the Rockefeller Foundation, the Smithsonian and the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, among others.

Also presenting about her current exhibition "**Siren Fall**" is Canadian artist **Christine Kirouac**. She will speak on Feb. 28 at 8 p.m. in [119 Rutledge Building](#). "Siren Fall" is an installation joining three sister videos: Scuffers, Pink Mist and Engage/Disengage. This work captures young girls from London, Ontario, interpreting military fashion through the filters of suburbia.

Kirouac received her M.F.A. from Concordia University in Montreal in 2002, and over the past 20 years has held several studio and production residencies at the Banff Centre for the Performing Arts and the Kunst & Complex in Rotterdam, Netherlands. Her media installations, performances and videos have exhibited globally in both galleries and film festivals.

Both exhibitions will be on view through March 8 and been made possible by a grant from [Winthrop's Global Learning Initiative](#) and the support of the [Women's Studies Program](#). Both are also free cultural events.

Winthrop University Galleries are open Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and closed on weekends and university holidays. All artist talks, exhibitions and receptions are free and open to the public. For

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